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SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

133

COUNTRY Polish-occupied Germany

25X1A

TOPIC Information on Soviet and Polish Troops in Liegnitz and Seifersdorf

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(except as noted) PLACE OBTAINED

25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT prior to December 1950

25X1A

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED 24 October 1951

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

25X1A

PAGES 4

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

Liegnitz.

1. In the summer of 1950, Soviet troops wearing black epaulets were observed in the barracks installation on Goldbergerstrasse on Siegeshoehe, Liegnitz (O 52/B 82). No tanks or artillery pieces were seen in this installation which was visited by source only once. Numerous sedans were seen in a garage.

25X1X [REDACTED] The former military post hospital, opposite the barracks installation, was used by the Soviets. [REDACTED] 25X1X

2. Part of the barracks installations located on the south side of Haynauer Strasse, immediately east of the railroad line, was used by a Soviet-controlled printing office which produced the newspapers published in Liegnitz. Another portion of the installation, which consisted of three multi-story buildings, quartered Soviet soldiers, who were not believed to belong to the printing office. Source knew that the second barracks installation on the north side of Haynauer Strasse, west of the railroad line, quartered several Soviet agencies, including a main finance office and a Soviet laundry.

25X1X [REDACTED] Although Soviet officers and EM were continuously seen entering and leaving this installation, source did not definitely know whether a troop unit was stationed there.

3. The former Taubstummenanstalt (Institute for the Deaf and Dumb), opposite the barracks installation on the north side of Haynauer Strasse, quartered a Soviet unit which was known by the name of "Headquarters". Officers wearing epaulets with red and black backgrounds and Soviet civilians were observed there. The unit had connections with the former Teichert factory, the former Opel workshop and the Soviet Kech agency.

4. The former Grenadier Kaserne quartered troops of an undetermined branch of service. The former municipal hospital, near this barracks installation

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on the north side of "Maynauer Strasse, was under Soviet administration.

5. Barracks installation located on the west side of Frankfurter Strasse, in the suburb of Toepferberg, in the northern part of the town, which was referred to as Artillerie Kaserne, quartered soldiers who wore black epaulets. No tanks or artillery pieces were seen there. However, an acquaintance of source, who lived near this installation, stated that it quartered artillery troops. The barracks installation on the east side of the road to Lubben (O 52/B 34) quartered troops of an undetermined branch of service. [REDACTED]

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6. Up to early September 1950, Polish troops were observed in the barracks installation on the east side of Immlmannstrasse, north of the airfield. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The installation consists of 1 old four-story building, 3 other quartering buildings, and 1 kitchen and utilities building. Antenna masts fitted with rod, wire and loop antennas, were seen on the roof of one of the quartering buildings. The Polish soldiers, who were 20 to 25 years old, wore grey-blue coats and blue trousers with wide yellow stripes as dress uniforms. The epaulets and visor-type caps had yellow piping. This type uniform was first seen by source about the beginning of 1949. (1) The airfield barracks installation quartered air force soldiers. [REDACTED]

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7. The former House of the German Armed Forces, on the south side of Bitschen Strasse, west of the athletic field, quartered a Soviet headquarters. Many high-ranking officers, including generals, were seen there by source. The installation was generally referred to in Liegnitz as "The Soviet General Staff". The area between Bitschen Strasse and Martin Luther Strasse and on both sides of Dove Strasse was occupied exclusively by Soviets. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The former municipal Lyzeum (high school for girls), north of Lindenburgerplatz, served as a Soviet officers' clubhouse. Soviet officers and civilians were seen in Villa Hartmann, apparently a clubhouse, on Schuetzenstrasse near Muehlgraben. A Soviet hotel for transient officers was located in the building of the former agricultural bank at the intersection of Luisen Strasse and Garten Strasse. The former Soviet main komendatura in the former Hitler Youth home on Garten Strasse was deactivated some time before. The building housed an agency which was mainly civilian. Soviet officers were seldom seen there.

8. The former Ritter Akademie, northwest of Kleiner Ring, was used as a Soviet warehouse prior to September 1951. According to German warehouse workers, large quantities of clothing and other equipment had been stored there. A large Soviet motor vehicle repair shop was established in the former Coppel workshop on the east side of Jauer Strasse and south of Baesler Strasse. About 120 men were assigned to this installation prior to September 1950. Its superior headquarters was located in Breslau-Klettendorf (P 52/C 41). A Colonel Vilkhrevo, (fmu), (phonetic spelling), who was in control of the workshop, lived in Breslau, but frequently stayed in Liegnitz. (2) A Soviet unit which was mainly charged with repair work on tank engines, was located in the former Teichert Machine factory.

9. A Polish recruiting office was located in the former agricultural school on Wilhelmstrasse. A Polish officers' clubhouse, which was frequented by officers of the Polish Armed Forces, and by militia as well as by civilians, was located in a villa on the north side of Gartenstrasse near the millrace which runs underground there. Another military Polish agency was believed to be located in two adjacent dwelling houses on the east side of Schubertstrasse. Polish officers and civilians were seen there. The headquarters of the Polish Militia was located on the northwest side of Gartenstrasse near Breslauer Platz.

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10. Up to September 1951, two buildings of the barracks installation on the south side of Maynauer Strasse and east of the railroad line, were used by the Soviet-controlled printing shop, which printed the Krasnaya Wesla in Russian and the Wolnos in Polish. Officers and E seen there wore red epaulets. Two antenna masts were seen on one of the buildings. Another barracks building quartered Soviet soldiers, probably infantry, who were observed drilling and marching out of the area. The barracks installation on the north side of Maynauer Strasse, west of the railroad line, housed Soviet paymaster offices and the Soviet main finance office, where the printing shop along with other units was paid. [REDACTED] Other details on the occupation of this installation were not available. 25X1X

11. Prior to September 1950, the former villa of Field Marshal von Mannstein on Holtz Strasse housed a Soviet agency headed by Lieutenant Colonel Tczobostanski, (fmu), (phonetic spelling). This agency checked the settling of accounts between the Soviet-Polish agencies. The Soviet officers' clubhouse was located in the former municipal high school for girls.

12. Source obtained an original certificate issued by Major Lovik, (fmu), commanding officer of [REDACTED]. The certificate was valid until 1 July 1947.

13. Prior to the summer of 1950, the barracks installation on the east side of Immelmannstrasse was the only one in Liegnitz occupied by Polish troops. [REDACTED] Polish soldiers were seldom in evidence in the town. Polish registrations for the draft were conducted in the former agricultural school at 35 Wilhelmstrasse.

14. [REDACTED] 25X1X  
[REDACTED] 1 [REDACTED] observed a large number of trucks and sedans in the barracks yard. No tanks or other heavy weapons were observed. [REDACTED] No Polish motor vehicle repair shop or fuel dump was available in Liegnitz. (3)

Seifersdorf.

15. Prior to November 1950, a Soviet switchboard was observed at the southern exit of Seifersdorf (O 52/R 92). A number of telephone lines suspended from poles and field cables led in a makeshift way over wooden supports and trees and converged at the switchboard. A similar switchboard was observed in December 1949 in Koerlin (O 55/R 33) Pomerania, on the west bank of the Persante River and on the north side of the highway to Stettin (O 54/R 55). Apart from this installation no Soviet troops were stationed in Koerlin.

16. About 15 November 1950, a Soviet economic staff, headed by Major Ostanenko, (fmu), (phonetic spelling), was transferred from Seifersdorf. According to Poles, the Soviet staff was transferred on the basis of an agreement concluded by Poland and the U.S.S.R., according to which the administration of the district was definitely turned over to the Poles, and a Polish administration of farm and estates was established in Seifersdorf. (4)

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Comments.

(1) The occupation of the barracks installation on Immelmannstrasse by a Polish unit is confirmed up to March 1951. [REDACTED]. This unit very probably was an MO agency or an MO school, an assumption which would be supported by the yellow stripes on the trousers as they were also observed at an MO school in Stolp.

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(2) Colonel Vithrevo, (fmu), was mentioned as chief of a motor vehicle repair shop in Dreslau-Polanowitz by another source in November 1949. 25X1A

(3) The information on Soviet occupied barracks installations in Liegnitz agrees with statements made by other resettlers. The report makes it clear that most of the barracks installations in the town quartered Soviet troops and agencies up to December 1950 and that Polish troop units are probably not stationed in Liegnitz. The occupation of the barracks installations in Liegnitz does not clearly identify the Soviet units actually quartered there, even if compared with former reports. The Artillerie Kaserne mentioned in Paragraph 5 of the present report as being located on the former Frankfurter Strasse, is probably identical with the worker settlement in Toepferberg reportedly occupied by Soviet infantry, tank and artillery units in January 1948.

(4) According to other information covering the period up to March 1951, Soviet units in Liegnitz assigned to [REDACTED] had seized former German estates in the vicinity of the town, which, however, were to be returned to Polish administration. 25X1B

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